

2026 EQUITY AND DIVERSITY AWARD

*The Illinois Community College Trustees Association's **EQUITY AND DIVERSITY AWARD** recognizes exemplary commitment by an Illinois public community college board of trustees and its chief executive officer to achieve diversity, equity, and inclusion in the college's education programs.*

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT

Any governing board or governing board and president of an ICCTA member board is eligible for this award.

AWARD CRITERIA

Each nomination for the ICCTA Equity and Diversity Award will be reviewed according to demonstrable evidence of leadership in setting policies that promote and enhance opportunities for institutional diversity, inclusion, and equity for women, persons of color, LGBTQ+ or members of any other underrepresented or underserved population that has occurred within the last five (5) years regarding the following:

- Increases in access by underrepresented or underserved populations and increases in completion of the educational objectives (attainment of a degree, certificate, credential, transfer or gainful employment) of those populations
- Increases in the institution's workforce and leadership positions by underrepresented or underserved populations
- Success of the institution's community engagement or outreach efforts in attracting and maintaining the interests of underrepresented or underserved populations regarding the institution

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

All ICCTA member colleges are eligible to participate in the Equity and Diversity Award program. Nominations must be submitted by the board of trustees of an ICCTA member college.

In order for a nomination to be considered, all of the following items must be included in the nomination packet.

The total length must not exceed six (6) single-sided pages:

- Letter of support from the college board of trustees
- Responses to each of the above award criteria questions
- Optional supplemental materials (i.e., news articles, brochures, photos)

In addition, the nomination must include a narrative statement (not to exceed 150 words) that explains the nominee's qualifications and is suitable for use in ICCTA publicity materials. *The narrative statement is not included in the 6-page nomination packet, but it is required for a nomination to be considered.*

★ Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the disqualification of a nomination ★

Should only one nomination be received, the application will be rolled over to the following year.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

All nominations must be received **BY 5:00 P.M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026. THIS DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** All award nominees will be invited to attend ICCTA's June 5, 2026 awards banquet in Normal, where the statewide winner will be announced.

All nominations and support materials should be sent to the **Illinois Community College Trustees Association, 401 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62701-1711.** For more information, please contact Veronica Brown at vbrown@communitycolleges.org or 1-800-454-2282, ext. 101.



Illinois Community College Trustees Association

2026 Equity and Diversity Award Nomination Form

Community
College

Name of President / CEO /

Chancellor

Name of contact

(if different from above)

Mailing address

E-mail

Telephone #

address

To ensure that your awards nomination is processed without delay, please check off the following items before submitting this information:

Nominations Packet -- **NO MORE THAN 6 SINGLE-SIDED PAGES** may be submitted:

- ☐ Letter of support from the college board of trustees
- ☐ Responses to each award criteria question
- ☐ Optional supplemental materials (i.e., news articles, brochures, photos)

Also required for consideration (but not included in the 6-page limit):

- ☐ Narrative statement of no more than 150 words
- ☐ Completed nomination form

This nomination form and supporting materials must be received by **5 PM, Friday, February 27, 2026**, at:

Illinois Community College Trustees Association

401 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 200

Springfield, IL 62701-1711

FAX: 217-528-8662

E-MAIL: vbrown@communitycolleges.org

▪ For more information: Veronica Brown at vbrown@communitycolleges.org or 1-800-454-2282, ext. 101 ▪